# **Linux Quick Reference**

SOME USEFUL COMMANDS

Command	Task	
File/Directory Basics		
ls	List files	
ср	Copy files	
mv	Rename files	
rm	Delete files	
ln	Link files	
cd	Change directory	
pwd	Print current directory name	

Create directory

Delete directory

# File Viewing

mkdir

rmdir

cat	View files
less	Page through files
head	View file beginning
tail	View file ending
nl	Number lines
od	View binary data
xxd	View binary data
gv	View Postscript/PDF files
xdvi	View TeX DVI files

# File Creation and Editing

emacs	Text editor
vim	Text editor
umask	Set default file protections
soffice	Edit Word/Excel/ PowerPoint docs
abiword	Edit Word documents

#### File Properties

gnumeric

stat

WC.

Isattr

du	Measure disk usage
file	Identify file types
touch	Change file timestamps
chown	Change file owner
chgrp	Change file group
chmod	Change file protections
chattr	Change advanced file

Edit Excel documents

Display file attributes

Count bytes/words/lines

attributes List advanced file

attributes

# Command File Location

find	Locate files
slocate	Locate files via index
which	Locate commands
whereis	Locate standard files

Task

# **File Text Manipulation**

(	grep	Search lines	text	tor	matching

cut Extract columnspaste Append columnstr Translate characters

sort Sort lines

uniq Locate identical lines tee Copy stdin to a file and to stdout simultaneously

# **File Compression**

gzip	Compress files
	(GNÚ Zip)

compress Compress files (Unix)
bzip2 Compress files (BZip2)
zip Compress files
(Windows Zip)

### **File Comparison**

diff Compare files line by line
comm Compare sorted files
cmp Compare files byte
by byte
md5sum Compute checksums

## Disks and Filesystems

df Show free disk space mount Make a disk accessible fsck Check a disk for errors sync Flush disk caches

# **Backups and Remote Storage**

mtControl a tape drivedumpBack up a diskrestoreRestore a dump

tar Read/write tape archives

cdrecord Burn a CDrsync Mirror a set of files



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mkdir	Create directory	
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File Viewing		
cat	View files	

Page through files less View file beginning head tail View file ending nl Number lines od View binary data View binary data xxd View Postscript/PDF files gv View TeX DVI files xdvi

# File Creation and Editing

Text editor emacs Text editor vim Set default file umask protections soffice Edit Word/Excel/ PowerPoint docs Edit Word documents abiword gnumeric Edit Excel documents

# **File Properties**

Display file attributes stat Count bytes/words/lines wc Measure disk usage du file Identify file types touch Change file timestamps chown Change file owner chgrp Change file group chmod Change file protections chattr Change advanced file attributes lsattr List advanced file

#### Command Task **File Location**

find Locate files Locate files via index slocate which Locate commands Locate standard files whereis

# File Text Manipulation

Search text for matching grep lines Extract columns cut Append columns paste tr Translate characters sort Sort lines uniq Locate identical lines Copy stdin to a file and tee

to stdout simultaneously

# File Compression

Compress files gzip (GNÜ Zip) Compress files (Unix) compress Compress files (BZip2) bzip2 zip Compress files (Windows Zip)

# File Comparison

diff Compare files line by line comm Compare sorted files Compare files byte cmp by byte md5sum Compute checksums

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# **Backups and Remote Storage**

Control a tape drive mt dump Back up a disk restore Restore a dump Read/write tape archives tar cdrecord Burn a CD Mirror a set of files rsync

Command Task **File/Directory Basics** 

ls List files Copy files ср Rename files mv Delete files rm Link files ln

cdChange directory Print current directory pwd name

mkdir Create directory rmdir Delete directory

# **File Viewing**

cat View files Page through files less View file beginning head tail View file ending nl Number lines od View binary data View binary data xxd View Postscript/PDF files gν View TeX DVI files xdvi

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#### File Properties

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List advanced file Isattr attributes

Command File Location

grep

find Locate files Locate files via index slocate which Locate commands Locate standard files whereis

Search text for matching

to stdout simultaneously

Task

#### File Text Manipulation

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## File Compression

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**File/Directory Basics** ls List files Copy files ср Rename files mv Delete files rm Link files ln cdChange directory

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View files

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Isattr

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Command Task

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Search text for matching lines Extract columns cut Append columns paste tr Translate characters sort Sort lines

Locate identical lines

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to stdout simultaneously

File Compression Compress files gzip (GNÜ Zip)

unig

tee

Compress files (Unix) compress Compress files (BZip2) bzip2 zip Compress files

(Windows Zip)

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# **Backups and Remote Storage**

mt Control a tape drive dump Back up a disk restore Restore a dump Read/write tape archives tar

Burn a CD cdrecord

Mirror a set of files rsync







List advanced file

attributes

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SOME USEFUL COMMANDS

Command	Task	Command	Task
Printing		Networking	g
lpr Inc	Print files	ssh	Securely log into remote hosts
lpq lprm	View print queue Remove print jobs	telnet	Log into remote hosts
Spelling Op	, ,	scp	Securely copy files between hosts
look	Look up spelling	sftp	Securely copy files between hosts
aspell	Check spelling interactively	ftp	Copy files between hosts
spell	Check spelling in batch	evolution	GUI email client
_		mutt	Text-based email client
Processes		mail	Minimal email client
ps	List all processes	mozilla	Web browser

lvnx

wget

slrn

gaim

talk

write

mesg

xload	Monitor system load
free	Display free memory
kill	Terminate processes
nice	Set process priorities

List users' processes

View the system load

Monitor processes

renice Change process priorities

sleep Wait for some time watch Run programs at set

intervals at Schedule a job

**Scheduling Jobs** 

**crontab** Schedule repeated jobs

Hosts

uptime

top

**uname** Print system information

hostname Print the system's hostname

**ifconfig** Set/display network information

host Look up DNS

whois Look up domain registrants

ping Check if host is reachable traceroute View network path to

a host

# Audio and Video

grip	Play CDs and rip MP3s
xmms	Play audio files
cdparanoia	Rip audio
audacity	Edit audio
xcdroast	Burn CDs

Text-only web browser

Retrieve web pages

Read Usenet news

Linux/Unix chat

Send messages to a terminal

Prohibit talk/write

Instant messaging/IRC

to disk



